Chapter 11

Police

POLICE: INTRODUCTION

The Greensboro Police Department adheres to principles of community policing, highly valuing active community participation, partnerships and innovation. The Police Department has recently completed a five-year Strategic Plan designed to make Greensboro the safest city in America. The Department is composed of three operational bureaus and one support bureau. Divisions within the four bureaus provide law enforcement and prevention services, investigations of major crimes and administrative and support functions. Principal priorities in the Strategic Plan include:

- Handling emergencies quickly;
- Fighting crime effectively;
- Providing high visibility patrol;
- Partnering in problem solving;
- Creating an atmosphere of fairness and trust; and
- Focusing on prevention.

The location of Police Service Centers in each police district is a key strategy in providing services to each neighborhood. The downtown police station is located at 300 West Washington Street. The first Service Center opened on Maple Street in northeast Greensboro in April 2000. In November of 2000, citizens voted to approve a bond referendum for two additional centers. Proposed locations for those centers are 2602 S. Elm-Eugene Street (southeast Greensboro) and a yet undetermined location in Police District 3 (northwest Greensboro).

Another critical component of the strategic plan is to accept accountability for crime prevention and the reduction of crime overall. To foster this accountability, police routinely review crime statistics that then guide decisions about deployment of resources. This chapter contains statistics for drug arrests, traffic accidents and arrests, violent crimes, property crimes and index crimes. Data are provided for the last ten years.

POLICE: SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

Greensboro Crime Statistics

In 2000, the police department handled 234,956 service calls in 2000. The volume is projected to increase to 341,161 service calls by 2025.

In 2000, drug arrests increased to their highest level, 4,679. This was a 133.6 percent increase between 1990 and 2000. The lowest number of drug arrests occurred in 1991, when 1,789 arrests were made. DWI arrests have declined steadily between 1990 and 2000, from 1,700 to 955, respectively.

From 1990-2000, the lowest number of violent crimes occurred in 1990 (1,822) and the highest number in 1993 (2,224). Total violent crimes for 2000 were 1,976. During this ten-year period, total property crimes varied between a low of 12,816 and a high of 15,921.

Total property crimes in 2000 totaled 13,041.

The Total Index Crimes, a combination of total violent crimes and total property crimes, increased by 2.6 percent between 1990 and 2000 in Greensboro.

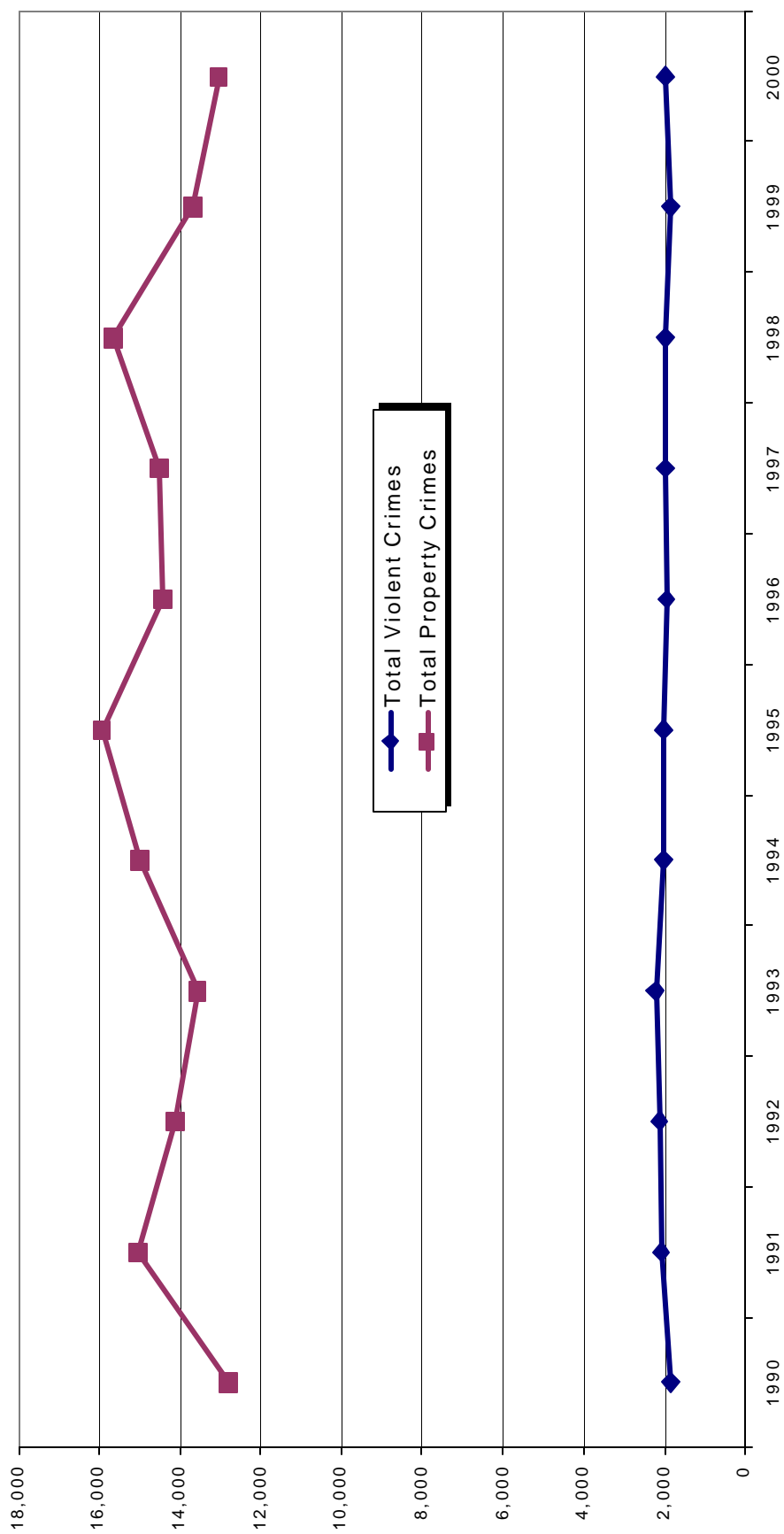Crime Statistics for Selected Cities

In 1999, Charlotte led in the number of total index crimes at 53,413 (8,138 violent crimes and 45,275 property crimes), while Greensboro ranked fifth as compared to North Carolina cities and nearly equaled total crimes in Montgomery, AL.

Greensboro Police Staffing

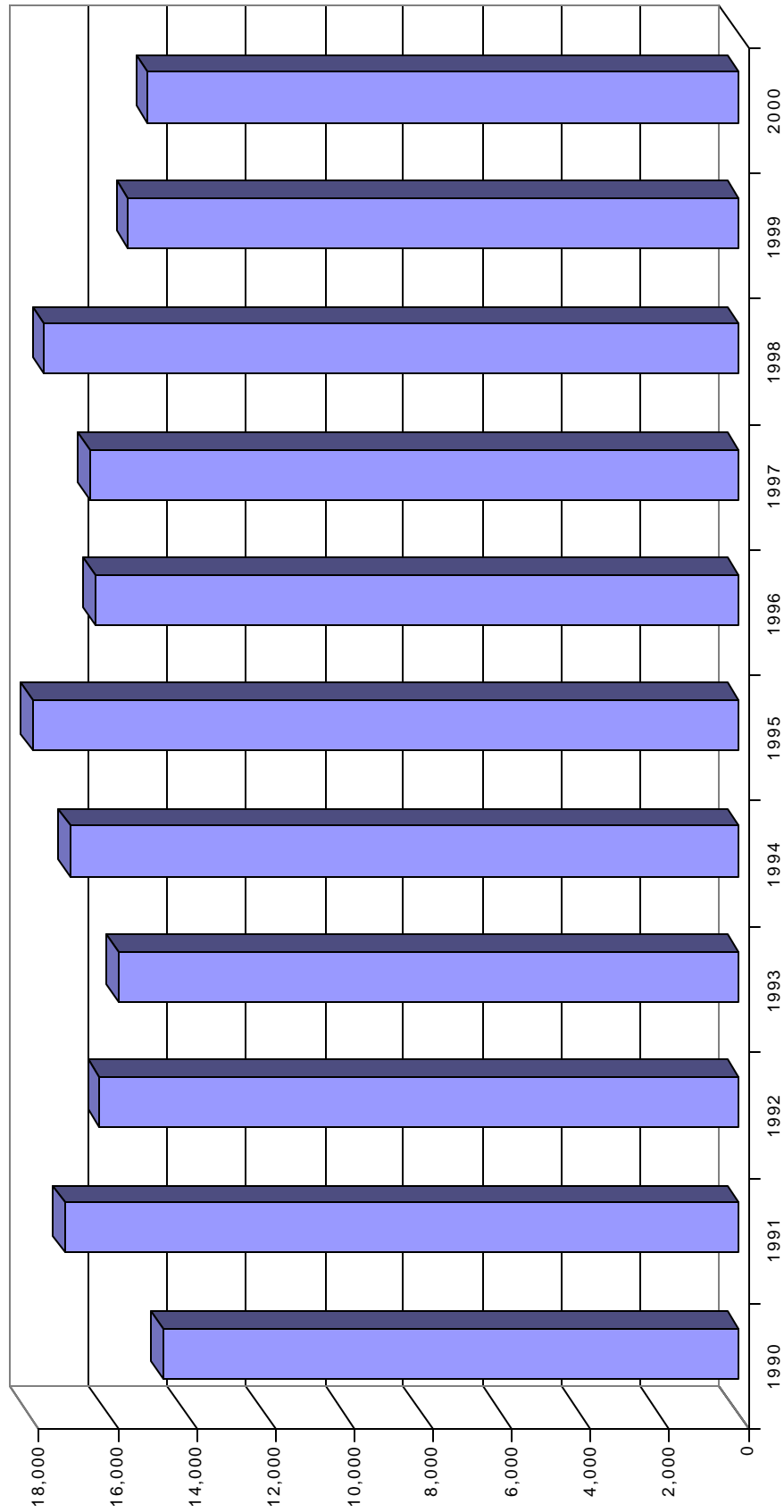In 2000, the Police Department had a total of 657 employees. Total staff is projected to increase to 1,275 by 2025.

Table 11-1: Greensboro Crime Statistics, 1990-2000

Incidents	Number of Crimes by Year											Percent Change, 1990-2000
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	
Arson	NA	NA	NA	96	125	133	79	87	90	68	73	-23.96%
DWI Arrests	1,700	1,630	1,388	1,214	1,180	1,007	1,070	1,033	1,005	1,006	955	-43.82%
Traffic Accidents	9,083	8,777	9,195	9,637	10,905	11,215	10,775	9,372	9,221	9,658	9,517	4.78%
Traffic Accident Fatalities	11	15	15	19	25	18	24	22	32	22	29	163.64%
Traffic Arrests	42,524	41,713	35,870	30,196	30,828	28,888	38,111	39,134	33,000	36,084	36,646	-13.82%
Drug Arrests	2,003	1,789	1,974	2,143	2,842	3,869	4,568	4,656	4,620	4,342	4,679	133.60%
Violent Crimes												
Homicide	21	36	23	28	20	35	23	34	21	20	21	0.00%
Rape	117	111	108	100	98	95	113	112	112	130	173	47.86%
Robbery	563	706	797	771	767	782	709	782	833	758	893	58.61%
Aggravated Assault	1,121	1,219	1,194	1,325	1,130	1,111	1,103	1,067	1,034	938	889	-20.70%
Total Violent Crimes	1,822	2,072	2,122	2,224	2,015	2,023	1,948	1,995	2,000	1,846	1,976	8.45%
Property Crimes												
Burglary	2,837	3,410	3,341	3,169	3,244	3,674	3,227	3,169	3,735	3,197	2,964	4.48%
Larceny	9,201	10,815	10,121	9,646	10,787	11,064	10,177	10,243	10,594	9,184	8,999	-2.20%
Auto Theft	778	820	653	740	959	1,183	1,026	1,102	1,321	1,298	1,078	38.56%
Total Property Crimes	12,816	15,045	14,115	13,555	14,990	15,921	14,430	14,514	15,650	13,679	13,041	1.76%
Total Index Crimes	14,638	17,117	16,237	15,779	17,005	17,944	16,378	16,509	17,650	15,525	15,017	2.59%

Source: Greensboro Police Dept. & the NC Dept. of Justice, Crime in NC, 1993-2000. 2001. Note: Percent Change for Arson category is calculated from 1993-2000.

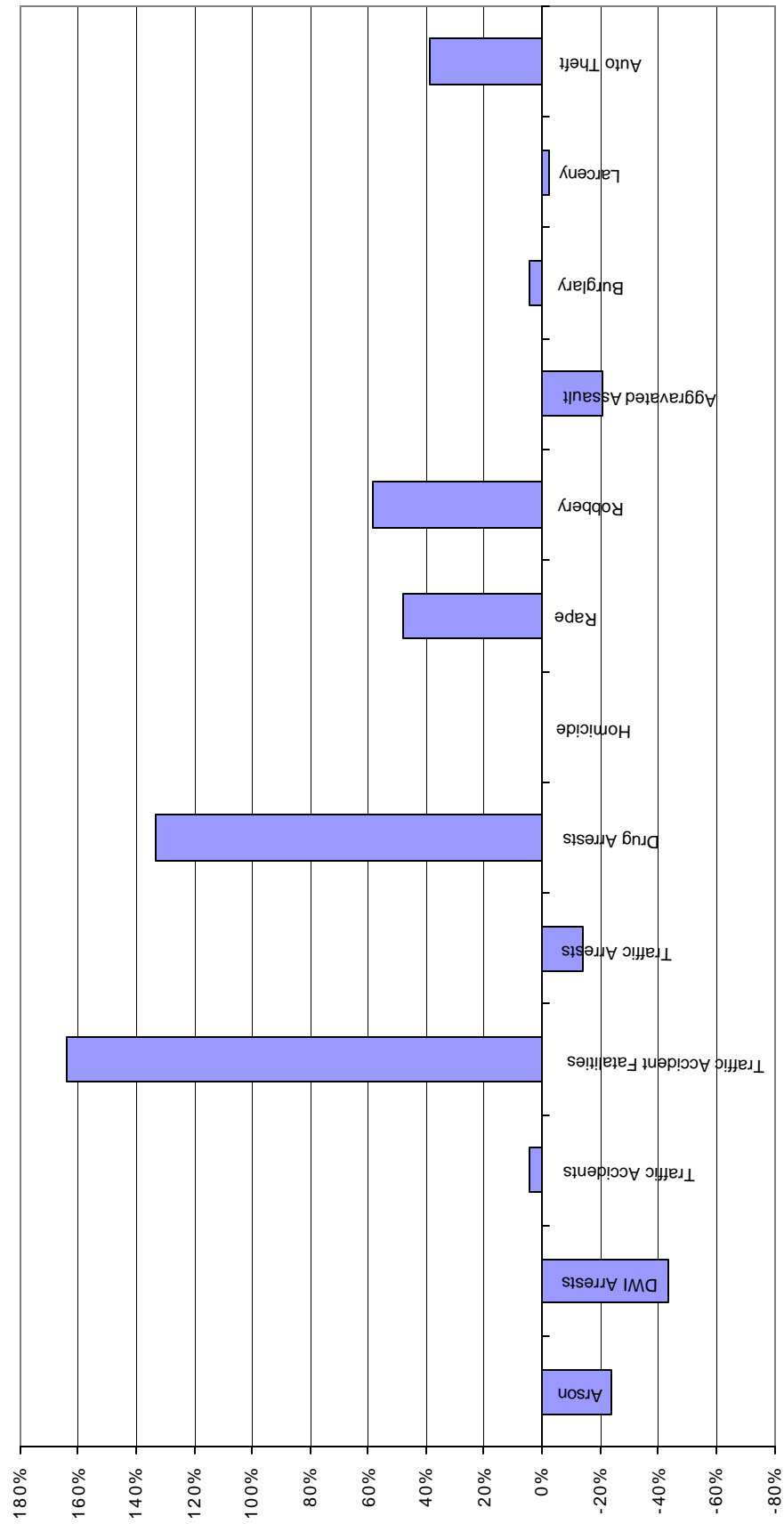Figure 11-1: Greensboro Crime Statistics, 1990-2000

Total Violent Crimes
Total Property Crimes

Source: Greensboro Police Dept. & the NC Dept. of Justice, Crime in NC, 1993-2000. 2001.

Figure 11-2: Greensboro Total Index Crimes Reported, 1990-2000

Source: Greensboro Police Dept. & the NC Dept. of Justice, Crime in NC, 1993-2000. 2001.

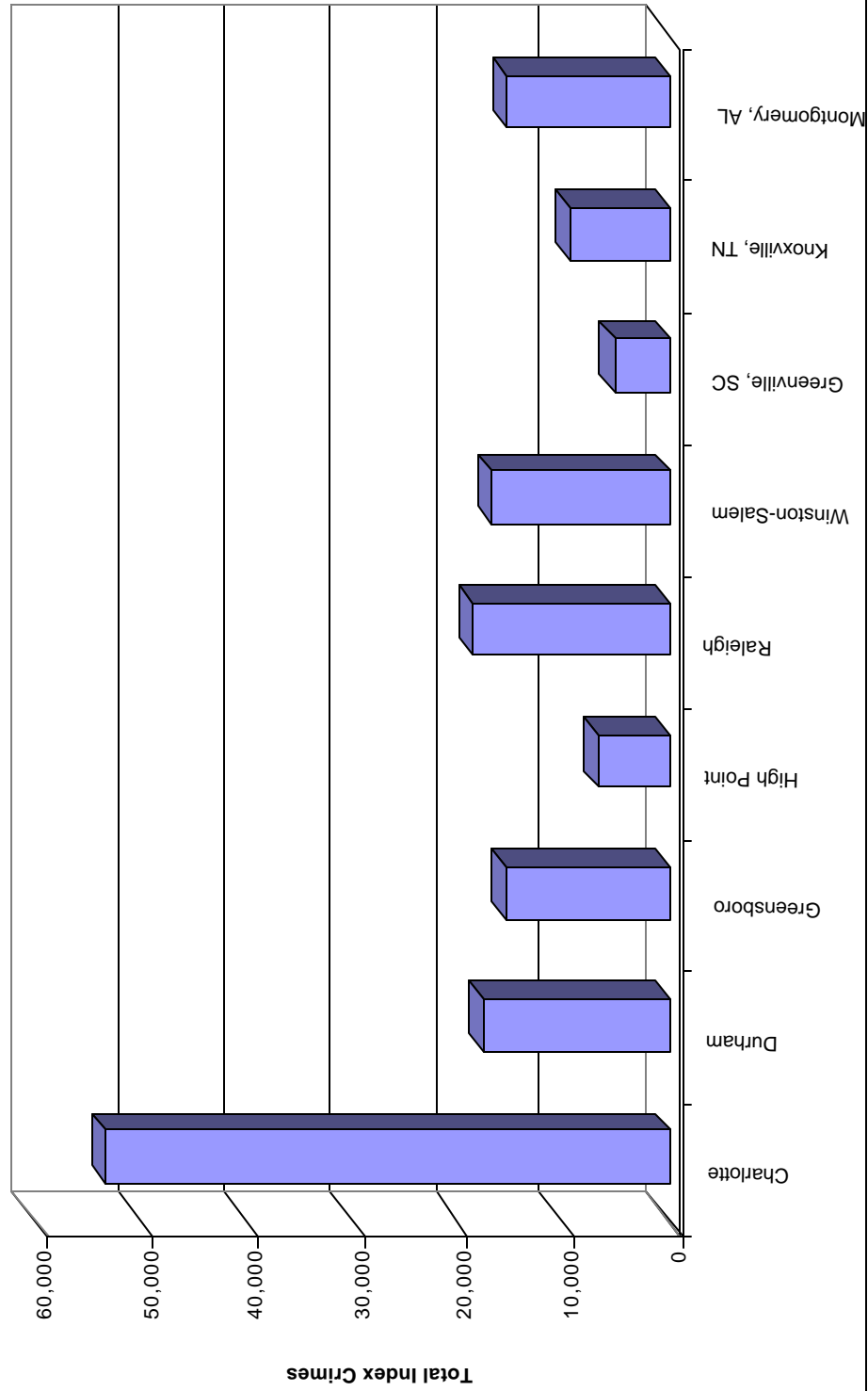**Figure 11-3: Greensboro Crime Statistics Percent Change, 1990-2000**

Source: Greensboro Police Dept. & the NC Dept. of Justice, Crime in NC, 1993-2000. 2001. Note: Percent Change for Arson category is calculated from

Table 11-2: Crime Statistics for Selected Municipalities, 1999

Incidents	NC Municipalities						Out-of-State Municipalities		
	Charlotte	Durham	Greensboro	High Point	Raleigh	Winston-Salem	Greenville, SC	Knoxville, TN	Montgomery, AL
Violent Crimes									
Homicide	84	14	20	4	16	17	3	N/A	26
Rape	262	80	130	37	92	112	19	N/A	120
Robbery	2,517	1,103	758	261	736	634	162	N/A	591
Aggravated Assault	5,275	816	938	514	1,189	1,450	311	N/A	846
Total Violent Crimes	8,138	2,013	1,846	816	2,033	2,213	495	1,392	1,583
Property Crimes									
Burglary	10,314	4,144	3,197	1,636	3,465	3,638	1,148	N/A	3,165
Larceny	30,116	9,895	9,184	3,886	11,864	9,921	3,423	N/A	9,304
Auto Theft	4,845	1,654	1,298	417	1,336	1,122	324	N/A	1,400
Total Property Crimes	45,275	15,693	13,679	5,939	16,665	14,681	4,895	8,077	13,869
Total Index Crimes	53,413	17,706	15,525	6,755	18,698	16,894	5,390	9,469	15,452

Source: Greensboro Police Dept., 2000, & Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, Crime in AL, 2000.
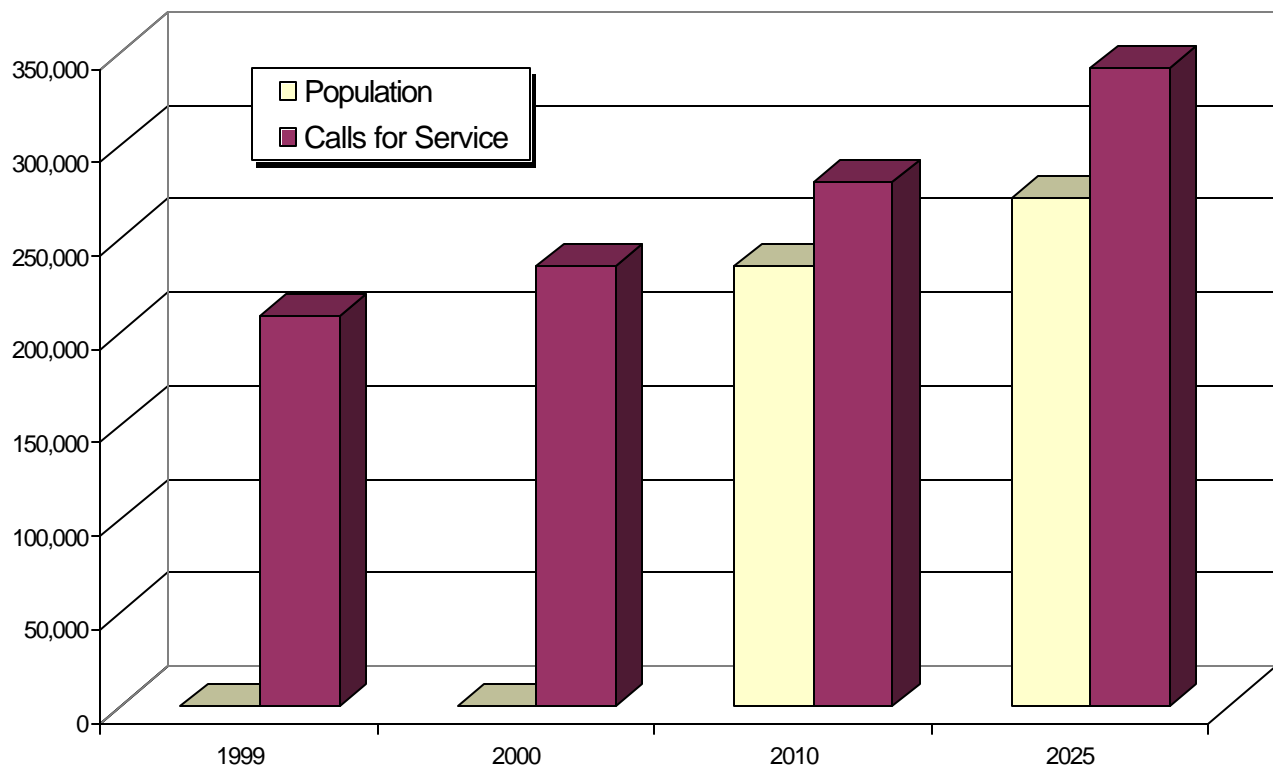
Figure 11-4: Crime Statistics for Selected Municipalities, 1999

Total Index Crimes

Montgomery, AL
Knoxville, TN
Greenville, SC
Winston-Salem
Raleigh
High Point
Greensboro
Durham
Charlotte

60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0

Source: Greensboro Police Dept. & Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center, Crime in AL, 1999.

Table 11-3: Greensboro Police Staffing and Equipment Estimates and Projections, 1999-2025				
Year	Population	Calls for Service	Total Staff	Vehicles
1999	*208,887	208,771	656	329
2000	**223,891	234,956	675	338
2010	235,308	280,002	915	378
2025	271,190	341,161	1,275	478
Source: Greensboro Police Dept., 2000. *Greensboro Planning Dept. estimate; **US Census Bureau, 2000 Population & Housing.				

Figure 11-5: Greensboro Population vs. Calls for Service to Police Dept., 2000

Source: Greensboro Police Dept., 2000. *Greensboro Planning Dept. estimate; **US Census Bureau, 2000 Population & Housing.